Division of Commercial Fisheries Sam Rabung, Director

Homer Area Office 3298 Douglas Place Homer, AK 99603-7942



Alaska Department of Fish and Game Doug Vincent-Lang, Commissioner

PO Box 115526 Juneau, AK 99811-5526 www.adfg.alaska.gov

Advisory Announcement

For Immediate Release: Friday, July 31, 2020

Time: 2:00 PM

CONTACT: Glenn Hollowell Finfish Management Biologist

(907) 235-8191

Lower Cook Inlet Salmon Fishery Announcement #16

SOUTHERN DISTRICT: Purse seine- Effective Monday, August 3 at 6:00 AM all waters of the Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery special harvest area (SHA) are closed to commercial common property salmon harvest. These closed waters are south of a line from Quarry Point (59° 30.23' N. lat., 151° 28.23' W. long.), to another point in Little Tutka Bay at 59° 28.63' N. lat., 151° 30.37' W. longitude. The Tutka Bay Lagoon Hatchery SHA is described in 5AAC 21.372(b)(1).

The following areas remain open to commercial common property purse seine salmon harvest on a Monday, Wed., and Friday schedule of 16-hr fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM,

- -the Humpy Creek Subdistrict,
- -the Halibut Cove Subdistrict, excluding Halibut Cove Lagoon,
- -the China Poot Section, excluding the China Poot SHA,
- -the Neptune Bay Section, excluding the Hazel Lake SHA, and
- -the Tutka Bay Subdistrict, excluding the Tutka Bay Hatchery SHA.

Southern District common property purse seine harvest from statistical weeks 25-30 is shown in Table 1 below, Table 1.- Southern District purse seine harvest by statistical week: current year, last year and previous 5-year average.

period			Chinook			Sockeye			Coho			Pink			Chum		
Stat. week	dates	2020 del.	5-yr avg.	2019 harv.	2020 harv.		2019 harv.	2020 harv.	5-yr avg.	2019 harv.	2020 harv.	- 3	2019 harv.	2020 harv.	5-yr avg.	2019 harv.	2020 harv.
25	6/14-6/20	1	30	12	0		233	109	0	0	0	10	1	0	36	0	0
26	6/21-6/27	8	44	76	15	4,840	4,594	1,061	3	10	0	227	756	2	120	36	16
27	6/28-7/4	41	41	12	30	11,506	10,759	13,052	38	51	8	5,083	2,885	76	147	25	72
28	7/5-7/11	49	16	42	54	13,503	11,153	30,341	402	1,059	11	14,758	7,474	602	156	96	404
29	7/12-7/18	40	13	14	2	11,660	7,250	18,675	464	649	180	17,165	4,313	2,815	518	54	598
30	7/19-7/25	33	6	17	0	6,912	7,247	8,168	423	625	184	15,758	4,379	29,150	165	43	19

Weeks 25-30 sum 149 173 101 49,627 41,236 71,406 1,330 2,394 383 53,001 19,808 32,645 1,142 254 1,109

Set gillnet- waters of the Southern District identified in 5AAC 21.330(b)(1) remain open to commercial set gillnet harvest on a regular schedule of two 48-hour fishing periods per week beginning at 6:00 AM on Mondays and Thursdays as defined in 5AAC 21.320(a)(3).

KAMISHAK DISTRICT: Effective Monday, August 3 at 12:01 AM, The Kirschner SHA is open to commercial common property purse seine harvest on a schedule concurrent with other open areas in this district. The McNeil River Subdistrict, and the Paint River Subdistrict remain closed to commercial salmon harvest until further notice. Other subdistricts of the Kamishak District as defined in 5AAC 21.299(e) remain open on a 7-days per week, 24-hour per day schedule. Waters of Chenik Lagoon east of 154° 08.33' W. long. remain open to commercial salmon harvest. Through July 27 a total of 8,355 sockeye salmon have been counted at the weir towards an SEG of 2,900-13,700 fish. Harvest from the Chenik Subdistrict is confidential due to fewer than 3 permit holders reporting deliveries from this area.

<u>OUTER DISTRICT</u>: The following areas remain open to commercial common property purse seine salmon harvest on a Monday, Wednesday, and Friday schedule of 16-hour fishing periods from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM,

- -the Dogfish Bay Subdistrict,
- -the Port Chatham Subdistrict,
- -theWindy Bay Subdistrict,
- -the East Nuka Subdistrict,

as well as the Port Dick Middle, Head End, and Island Creek sections until further notice.

In addition, commercial purse seine salmon fishing is permitted up to the freshwater outflows from Delight, Desire, and Delusion lakes using the definition of freshwater and saltwater boundary found in 5AAC 39.975(a)(26) on page 93 of the 2020-2022 Cook Inlet Area Commercial Salmon Fishing Regulations book. Also, 5AAC 21.350(f)(11) which pertains to the northern portion of McCarty Fjord is rescinded. The Delight Lake freshwater lagoon is **CLOSED** to commercial fishing.

The Delight Lake weir was installed by Cook Inlet Aquaculture Association (CIAA) on July 2 and is being operated by CIAA staff. Through July 30, a total of 9,815 sockeye salmon had been counted. The weir based SEG for this system is 7,500-17,650 fish.

<u>COVID-19</u>: Under Alaska's Health Mandates 10, 17, and 18, commercial fishing is an Essential Business and is part of Alaska's Essential Services and Critical Infrastructure. Commercial fishermen should ensure that all travel and other activities in support of commercial fishing operations follow protocols in Alaska COVID-19 Health Mandates. COVID-19 Health Mandates may be found here: https://gov.alaska.gov/home/ covid19-healthmandates/ and may also be accessed by scanning the quick read (QR) code at right using a smart phone.

The next scheduled commercial salmon fisheries announcement is anticipated to be on Friday, August 7.

Announcement recordings are available on the 24-hour telephone recording in the Homer office at 907/235-7307.

2020 Cook Inlet Commercial Fishing regulation books are available at ADF&G offices, and online here: https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/static/regulations/fishregulations/pdfs/commercial/2020_2022_cf_cook_inlet_salmon.pdf
This website may also be accessed by scanning the QR code at right.

